WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A method of combining formats for an electronic file, comprising:

combining data having at least two different encodings; and

presenting the combined data as homogenized data according to a reference encoding.

2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the reference encoding includes at least one of the at least two different encodings.

3. A method according to Claim 2, wherein the reference encoding is XML.

4. A method according to Claim 3, wherein the combined data is encoded into a single XML information set.

5. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the combining comprises referring to data.

6. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the combining comprises interleaving data.

7. A method according to Claim 5, wherein the combining comprises referring to data using an include element to reference binary data.

8. A method according to Claim 7, wherein a href (Hypertext REFerence) attribute of the include element provides a universal resource identifier of the binary data to be referenced.

9. A method according to Claim 5, wherein the combined data is presented as a MIME serialization.

10. A method according to Claim 7, wherein the include element comprises a simple object access protocol (SOAP) header block.

11. A method according to Claim 10, wherein the SOAP header block indicates that the combined data includes the XML include element, and points to cached representations of media resources.

12. A method according to Claim 11, wherein the SOAP header block points to any one of a web resource, an audio resource, and an image resource.

13. A method according to Claim 6, wherein the combining comprises combining data fragments, each data fragment being defined by values corresponding to a respective encoding, length, and content.

14. A method according to Claim 13, wherein a data fragment is notated as <encoding> <length> <content>.

15. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure, comprising:

a first data field encoded according to a first format; and

a second data field referring to data encoded according to a second format,

wherein the first data field and the second data field are homogenized according to a reference encoding format.

16. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 15, wherein the reference encoding is XML.

17. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 15, wherein the homogenized data is encoded into a single XML information set.

18. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 15, wherein at least one of the first data field and the second data field comprises an include element to reference binary data.

19. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 15, wherein a href attribute of the include element provides a universal resource identifier of the binary data to be referenced.

20. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 15, wherein at least one of the first data field and the second data field comprises an include element to reference one of a web resource, an audio resource, and an image resource.

21. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure, comprising:

a first data fragment encoded according to a first format; and

a second data fragment encoded according to a second data format,

wherein the first data field and the second data field are homogenized according to a reference encoding format.

22. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein the reference encoding is XML.

23. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 22, wherein the homogenized data is encoded into a single XML information set.

24. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein both the first and the second data fragment are defined by values corresponding to a respective encoding, length, and content.

25. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 24, wherein both the first data fragment and the second data fragment are formatted as <encoding> <length> <content>.

26. A method of transmitting data to a receiving node, comprising:

combining data having at least two different encodings;

homogenizing the combined data in accordance with a reference encoding; and

transmitting homogenized data to the receiving node over a network.

27. A method according to Claim 26, wherein the reference encoding includes at least one of the at least two different encodings.

28. A method according to Claim 27, wherein the reference encoding is XML.

29. A method according to Claim 28, wherein the combined data is homogenized into a single XML information set.

30. A method according to Claim 26, wherein the combining includes resolving to data.

31. A method according to Claim 26, wherein the combining includes interleaving data.

32. A method according to Claim 30, wherein the combining includes resolving to data using an include element to reference binary data.

33. A method according to Claim 32, wherein an attribute of the include element provides a universal resource identifier of the binary data to be resolved.

34. A method according to Claim 30, wherein the combined data is presented as a MIME serialization.

35. A method according to Claim 32, wherein the include element resolves to cached representations of media resources.

36. A method according to Claim 35, wherein the cached representations of media resources are cached separately from the include element.

37. A method according to Claim 35, wherein the include element resolves to any one of a web resource, an audio resource, and an image resource.

38. A method according to Claim 26, wherein the combining includes combining data fragments, each data fragment being defined by values corresponding to a respective encoding, length, and content.

39. A method according to Claim 26, wherein a data fragment is notated as <encoding> <length> <content>.